

VZCZCXRO3599
PP RUEHDBU
DE RUEHMO #6263 1601214
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 091214Z JUN 06
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7484
INFO RUEHDX/MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 006263

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/09/2016
TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [KPAL](#) [RS](#)
SUBJECT: RUSSIA ON PALESTINIAN ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 86455

Classified By: Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs Kirk Augustine.
Reasons: 1.4(B/D).

(C) Poloff delivered reftel demarche to MFA Israel/Palestine Section Chief Vladimir Baibakov June 8. Baibakov noted the GOR is still studying the European Commission mechanism paper and will provide its substantive comments in Brussels. Russia had taken pains, Baibakov noted, to ensure that its past assistance was channeled directly to PA President Mahmoud Abbas for education and health-related projects, and would continue to follow that same approach with any additional aid. He said the GOR is thinking about a new aid package that would encompass education assistance and urgently needed items such as medicines and tents. Russia is also considering how best to handle the question of Palestinian Authority salaries, Baibakov said.
BURNS